

The Dark Hour of Jesus (Mark 14:32-36)

Proposition: Every one of us that know the Lord, and bare the burdens and the dark hours of life by noting the three realities of Jesus dark hour and apply them to our own daily life.

- I. **The Setting of Jesus Dark Hour** (Vs. 32-36)
 - A. The Name of the Setting (Vs. 32a)
 - B. The Number at the Setting (Vs. 33,35)
 - c. The Nearness of the Setting (Vs. 36)
- II. **The Supplication of Jesus Dark Hour** (Vs. 36)
 - A. The Supplication of a Son (Vs. 36a)
 - B. The Supplication to a Sovereign (Vs. 32b)
 - C. The Supplication of a Servant (Vs. 32c-d)
- III. **The Supply of Jesus Dark Hour** (Vs.41-43)
 - A. A Supply of Strengthening (Luke 22:43)
 - B. A Supply of Surrender (Vs. 41)

The Dark Hour of Jesus (Mark 14:32-38)

In 1659 a Puritan writer wrote: "God, who is infinite in wisdom and matchless in goodness, hath ordered our troubles, yea, many troubles to come trooping in upon us on every side. As our mercies, so our crosses seldom come single; they usually come treading one upon the heels of another; they are like April showers, no sooner is one over but another comes. It's mercy that every affliction is not an execution, every correction not a damnation. The more the afflictions, the more the heart is raised heavenward." It seems as though that many of us have had our share of troubles recently. Dark hours that cause us to question the Lord. Jesus was not exempt from such trial. In our text we find him on the eve of his execution and with great heaviness he deals with this burden. Every one of us that know the Lord can have the burdens and dark hours of life by noting the three realities found in our text.

I. The Setting of Jesus Dark Hour

Dr. Charles Powell said "here we kneel upon Holy ground. Spurgeon said "I tremble at the task which lies before me. For how shallow

for which strong crying and tears were

A. The Name of the Setting ^{vs 33} The opening lines of the text give us insight. Geth-semane literally means olive press. A place where the olives were crushed in order to extract the precious oil. Just from the name we see this place is a place of pressure.

Jesus' pressure was an overwhelming, unimaginable pressure that we cannot fathom, but we can all

B. The Number at the Setting ^{vs 33-33} We see his disciples followed from the upper room

vs 33 3 are chosen to go further vs 34-35 at the last he is alone. The disciples are not too far off, yet in their understanding of the distress of the moment so far away.

In many of our trials our closest companions can only go so far. ⁽³⁾ It asked our friends could

C. The Nearness of the Setting ^{vs 33b 34-36}

For so much of Jesus' ministry, he was able to say my hour is not yet come. Now finally here in the garden, was the dawn of the hour for which he came. It lay before him. vs 33 amazed: terrified. The Cross! Lay before Him. This is as close to the edge as I would dare take us peering ⁽⁴⁾ into the deep workings

II. The Supplication of Jesus Dark Hour

What did we find Jesus doing? What was his activity? We find Jesus in prayer in supplication to God. In his dark

1) ...scarcely an adequate expression. Notice in the setting of Jesus' dark hour...

2) ...we can all identify with. We have all been under the great pressure and strain of life where it seems as though the walls are closing in on us.

3) ...friends could lead us out of the will of God. Some are slumbering, oblivious to God's working in our life.

4) ...deep workings of God, but I can apply it to our lives. Whether in an emergency room, in a funeral home, or on phone at midnight, have we not found ourselves in this same dark hour setting.

1) ...on His face in prayer

2) ...vs.35 "prayed": repeatedly prayed; began to pray.

3) No! Let us have the mind of the Lord: Philippians 2:5-8 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

and impending hour of distress we find Jesus in his face.

A. The Supplication of a Son - This is an intimate address. Abba is a transliteration of the word daddy, a title of intimacy or familiarity. Although we would not use it publicly for fear of irreverence, yet in those dark moments of trial, we are most apt to cling in heavenly father/child relationship. Jesus pours his heart out un inhibitedly, V535

B. The Supplication to a Sovereign V536 "All things" He is unwavering in the sovereign power of His father. Even in the darkest moment, Christ trusts that His father is in control. How unlike us. When great distress and anguish of soul invades us is when we wobble, our faith is shaken. MK11. How faith in God! In Job: ^{the year that King Uzziah died} I saw the Lord.

C. The Supplication of a Servant - What was the ending of his prayer? Not my will but they will be done. What a painful hour to sense the load of sin and shame begin to shift upon His shoulders. Yet there was this resolute heart of a servant whose aim was the pleasure of His Lord. So often in the dark hour of trial we want God to do our will. No (3)

III. The Supply of Jesus Dark Hour - As Christ rises from his moment of anguish to face the coming betrayer, we can see a divine supply given

My God in the time of ~~deepest~~ need.

A. A Supply of Strength - Lu 22:43

An angel was sent to strengthen him. No child of God that comes requesting earnestly under the umbrella of a resolve to do the will of God will go away unstrengthened. Paul in 2 Cor sought for relief from thorn in flesh was told My Grace is sufficient. Gods strength is made perfect in our weakest moments Vs 41 + 42 Christ turns to meet the betrayer head on. In 18 He utters the word I am He and they all fall over. A Supply of Strength

B. A Supply of Surrender - Again

It is important to emphasize the phrase "not my will but thine be done" was not just words. The cup did not pass. All of the cup of our sin was poured out on the Lord Jesus. He in his actions was surrendered to it. Song Mags Saurins Love! For me it was in the Garden, He prayed not my will but thine. He had no tears for his own grief, but shed drops of blood for mine. It was for me that he was supplied w/ surrender. On my behalf. So

IV. Cease Warren W. - You need not fear the cup the Father has prepared for you. Jesus could submit to the abuse of men because He had already submitted to the will of God!

- 1) Luke 22:43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.

- 2) ..So often in times of trial we get so introspective, our favorite song is "Poor Poor pitiful me." We do spiritual naval gazing. Yet in Ephesians 1:11 ...him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will... Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.